

By telegraph to the New-York Tribune.

Important from Washington—Appointments

Confirmed, &c.

WASHINGTON, Monday, March 10.

The following are the confirmations officially announced to-day:

J. D. Hoffman, Jr., District Judge of the United States for Northern California.

Horace Mower of Michigan, and John Watts of Indiana, Associate Justices of the Supreme Court of New Mexico.

Louis Lindner, Consul at Lounsbury, Germany.

Louis Lindner, Consul at Pennsylvania, Consul at H. Jones.

Belait, Hon. H. Jones, Assistant Dragoman and Secretary of Legation in Turkey.

A negro named Noah C. Hanson, charged with harboring two runaway slaves last summer, the harboring of Hon. Water Colcock, was tried in the Criminal Court on Saturday, and found guilty.

He was fined \$1,000, and to stand committed until the sale of Turks Island last this season.

The first sale of Alexandria on Saturday, when 6,000 bushels were sold, averaging 25 cents per bushel.

Said to be the same.

BOSTON, Monday, March 10.

Robert Tate Paine of the Senior Class of Harvard College, committed suicide on Saturday at his room, Holworthy Hall, Cambridge, by taking 20 grains of morphine. His body was not discovered until late on Sunday evening. He is 22 years of age.

Eighty six gamblers (captured by Marshal Turkey) were in a descent on the Police Court this morning, and brought before the Police Court this morning, and fined about five dollars each. There were young and old among the number.

Weather Items.

By Morris Lane, 16 Wall-st.

BOSTON, Monday, March 10.—A. M.

BOSTON.—Beautiful morning; moved some during the night; wind north; thermometer, 52; barometer, 29.10.

ROCHESTER.—Clear, cold; wind north; thermometer, 40; barometer, 29.10.

SYRACUSE.—Dark, cloudy and unpleasant morning; moved some last night; wind strong from north-west; thermometer, 34.

CINCINNATI.—Snowing moderately; wind east; thermometer, 34; barometer, 29.10.

ALBANY.—Clear, cold; wind north; thermometer, 34; barometer, 29.10.

NEW-YORK.—Clear, cold; wind north; thermometer, 34; barometer, 29.10.

NEW-YORK LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.—ALBANY, Monday, March 10.

Mr. BEKMAN presented the memorial of the Board of Education for the consideration of the Educational Laws of this city; of the New-York Historical Society, for aid in erecting a library building; of the Tenth Ward School Association for the consolidation of the Educational Laws of New-York City.

The bill providing for the appointment of Register of Births, Marriages and Deaths was discussed by Mr. BEKMAN. He stated that the official census returns show that, in the Northern District of this State, the deaths are only in the proportion of one out of every 22, while in the Southern District it is as high as one out of every 23.

After further debate, Mr. BEKMAN said it was evident that the State of New-York was not prepared for such law.

ASSEMBLY.

Petitioners for the repeal of the Free School Law to compel the New York and Erie Railroad to adhere to their original charter.

Reports were made favorably on the bills incorporating the Broadway Savings Bank, New York; incorporating the Methodist Episcopal New-York Society; and the New-York City and County Board of Health.

The House, in Committee of the Whole, considered the General Assessment law. No question was raised, and progress was reported.

LEAVING WAR.

Mr. Geo. T. Curtis, the gentleman who has been announced as the successor of Thomas E. Evans, Commissioner of Patents, has published a lengthy card in the Boston Advertiser, sustaining his position that the recent record of Shadrach, by a few unnamed colored people, was an act of 'levying war' against the United States, and therefore an act of treason, subjecting the participants to the penalty of death. Mr. Curtis defines 'levying war' as the forcible resistance to a particular law with the avowed design to frustrate the power and authority of the Government in all similar cases; and as the Boston case consisted of the forcible rescue of a prisoner confined for the like cause, it is therefore 'levying war,' and consequently treason, within the meaning of the Constitution. Mr. C. having stated the law, thus proceeds:

Now, what are the facts, at the time I answered the Secretary's dispatch? I knew that in every form in which such an attempt can be made, public and private, there were men in this city who had declared that they would resist the law, and that under the encouragement of these declarations, there were colored men here, carrying arms about their persons, in order to resist the law. There was no doubt in my mind, and I do not still believe, in the existence of a conspiracy here, more or less extensive, to resist and prevent the execution of the law in all cases.

If Curtis' facts are here put in their best light, as a lawyer of his reputation should be presumed to put them—

we apprehend that the execution for treason growing out of this Boston affair will not be very numerous. He fails to connect his 'Buckram' men in this city, who had made such very terrible threats against the peace and safety of the Republic, with those who rescued Shadrach. According to the accounts they were colored people, and not the men who occupy the Palisades and conduct the Press of Boston. Nothing has appeared in the published accounts of the rescue, or in evidence before the commission, to connect Mr. Curtis' 'colored men, carrying arms about their persons, in order to resist the law,' with the rescuers. They were colored men to be sure, but they do not appear to have used any of those deadly weapons, or even to have exhibited such ugly things on the occasion.

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In Philadelphia, the public lamps are lighted many more hours than in New-York. They are under the charge of the Police force, and in cloudy or rainy nights, and at other times, at the discretion of the Police Captains of Wards, they are lighted. For this excess of lighting, no charge is made.

In New-York, on the contrary, the lamps are lighted and extinguished at the discretion of the Gas Company, a party interested in consuming in the public lamps as little gas as possible; and it is notorious that so early in the morning are the public lamps extinguished, that the Police find it a difficult part of their duty to prevent and apprehend burglars and other marauders, who take advantage of an hour or two in which the streets are left in almost total darkness, to perpetrate their outrages unseen, and with comparative impunity. The Gas Company (says the Report) by this close economy, saves a few thousand feet of gas per week, at the expense of the entire community in more than one respect. This is at a time when the lamps should burn till daylight. It is also well known that during a large portion of the time when, by the almanac, we depend upon the moon to light our streets, they are left in the most uncomfortable and sometimes dangerous darkness, by reason of rising or falling weather, or because the houses obstruct her light when she is at a less altitude than 45 degrees. If on such occasions the public lamps are lighted, it is at a *pro rata* increase of compensation to the Gas Company. The Report urges the great importance of a change in the arrangements of the public lamps of this city, as soon as practicable; and recommends the adoption of a system similar to that practiced in Philadelphia.

The Report then details the reasons why the minority cannot accede to the conditions of the contract reported by the majority of the Committee. These reasons are, first: Because it makes no sufficient arrangement for dispensing with the use of the present oil-lamps. Secondly: Because article 8 of the proposed contract, in effect, provides for the adoption of a system similar to that practiced in Philadelphia. Thirdly: Because it deprives the Gas Company of the possession of any monopoly by allowing other parties to come into competition with them, which the Report considers a delusion from which the public at large could derive no benefit. Thirdly: Because no provision is made requiring the Company to furnish gas to private consumers at fair and equal prices, or to protect the public from the abuse of the monopoly of the Company. Fourthly: Because the rate of \$15 per annum for lighting the public lamps would operate injuriously upon private consumers, who would be called to pay a portion of the expense that should be borne by the public.

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From a private letter to a gentleman in this City, dated San Francisco, Feb. 1, which was received by the Empire City, we make the following extracts:

"By the way, the reports which have reached you in regard to the rich deposits of gold at Gold Bluff are sheer fabrications—got up to rob people of their money, and to induce other large emigration to this country. Believe none of these stories, and do not be misled by the Gold Bluff to immense deposits of gold, say that individual labor can do nothing—that the gold must be taken out by companies with machinery. It is beyond my comprehension how it should require much machinery to get gold from loose sand. I must still incline to the opinion that there is much gammon about this whole matter. There are some two or three thousand gamblers here, and nearly as many more Sydney thieves. There are few virtuous females here. If a man brings a young wife with him, the chances are that some of the gamblers will seduce her away from him. There are many more good men here, but they do not appear to have used any of those deadly weapons, or even to have exhibited such ugly things on the occasion."

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In Philadelphia, the public lamps are lighted many more hours than in New-York. They are under the charge of the Police force, and in cloudy or rainy nights, and at other times, at the discretion of the Police Captains of Wards, they are lighted. For this excess of lighting, no charge is made.

In New-York, on the contrary, the lamps are lighted and extinguished at the discretion of the Gas Company, a party interested in consuming in the public lamps as little gas as possible; and it is notorious that so early in the morning are the public lamps extinguished, that the Police find it a difficult part of their duty to prevent and apprehend burglars and other marauders, who take advantage of an hour or two in which the streets are left in almost total darkness, to perpetrate their outrages unseen, and with comparative impunity. The Gas Company (says the Report) by this close economy, saves a few thousand feet of gas per week, at the expense of the entire community in more than one respect. This is at a time when the lamps should burn till daylight. It is also well known that during a large portion of the time when, by the almanac, we depend upon the moon to light our streets, they are left in the most uncomfortable and sometimes dangerous darkness, by reason of rising or falling weather, or because the houses obstruct her light when she is at a less altitude than 45 degrees. If on such occasions the public lamps are lighted, it is at a *pro rata* increase of compensation to the Gas Company. The Report urges the great importance of a change in the arrangements of the public lamps of this city, as soon as practicable; and recommends the adoption of a system similar to that practiced in Philadelphia.

The Report then details the reasons why the minority cannot accede to the conditions of the contract reported by the majority of the Committee. These reasons are, first: Because it makes no sufficient arrangement for dispensing with the use of the present oil-lamps. Secondly: Because article 8 of the proposed contract, in effect, provides for the adoption of a system similar to that practiced in Philadelphia. Thirdly: Because it deprives the Gas Company of the possession of any monopoly by allowing other parties to come into competition with them, which the Report considers a delusion from which the public at large could derive no benefit. Thirdly: Because no provision is made requiring the Company to furnish gas to private consumers at fair and equal prices, or to protect the public from the abuse of the monopoly of the Company. Fourthly: Because the rate of \$15 per annum for lighting the public lamps would operate injuriously upon private consumers, who would be called to pay a portion of the expense that should be borne by the public.

Finally: The Report expresses the opinion that all the streets of the City should be lighted with gas as soon as practicable, as the interest of our citizens and the protection of property require; and in so doing the rights of private consumers, hitherto entirely overlooked, shall be reasonably protected. The Report adds of valuable tables add to the value of the Report.

The Gold Bluff—Society in San Francisco—Hospitality of the Proprietors of a Newspaper.

From a private letter to a gentleman in this City, dated San Francisco, Feb. 1, which was received by the Empire City, we make the following extracts:

"By the way, the reports which have reached you in regard to the rich deposits of gold at Gold Bluff are sheer fabrications—got up to rob people of their money, and to induce other large emigration to this country. Believe none of these stories, and do not be misled by the Gold Bluff to immense deposits of gold, say that individual labor can do nothing—that the gold must be taken out by companies with machinery. It is beyond my comprehension how it should require much machinery to get gold from loose sand. I must still incline to the opinion that there is much gammon about this whole matter. There are some two or three thousand gamblers here, and nearly as many more Sydney thieves. There are few virtuous females here. If a man brings a young wife with him, the chances are that some of the gamblers will seduce her away from him. There are many more good men here, but they do not appear to have used any of those deadly weapons, or even to have exhibited such ugly things on the occasion."

NEWSPAPER IMPROVEMENTS.—The Boston Journal appeared on Wednesday in a handsome new suit. It is an excellent sheet, and gains rapidly in public estimation. The Freedom (N. Y.) Censor has entered upon its thirty-first year with renewed prospects of success. The Censor is the oldest paper in Chautauque Co. and is a well edited and enterprising journal. It is now published by W. McKinstry & Brother, the latter party having just been connected in the partnership.

IRISH GOLF IN ARKANSAS.—The plan formed by Bishop O'Connell of removing a large number of families from Wexford and Wicklow, Ireland, to Arkansas, has been abandoned, because Rev. Mr. O'Connell was sent out from Ireland to explore, did not think the country suitable. It is thought Mr. H. will fix on a spot on the Mississippi north of Dubuque, Iowa.

THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY OF ALBANY GIVES NOTICE THAT HE SHALL STRICTLY ENFORCE THE LAW BY PRESENTING TO THE GRAND JURY EVERY VIOLATOR OF THE LAW AGAINST RAFFING AND LOTTERIES. This includes gift concerts, &c.

MORTALITY OF THE WEEK.—During the past week there have been 359 deaths in this City, being an increase of 26 over last week. Of this number, 66 died of consumption and 37 of inflammation of the lungs—a total of 93 from diseases of the chest.

GAS CONTRACTS.—Report of the Minority of the Special Committee.

The Minority Report of the Special Committee on Gas Contracts, of the Board of Aldermen, presents a strong array of arguments against the renewal of the City's contract with the New-York Gas Company. The Report is a carefully prepared document of forty-eight pages, presented by Ald. DODGE, at the February session of the Board. We condense its leading statements.

The other members of the Committee were appointed early in 1880, and made their report to the Board on the 11th December last. That Report was adopted, immediately concurred in by the Board of Aldermen, and would have become binding as a contract, had not Mayor Woodhull seen fit to veto it. The Report was then recommended, when Ald. WOOD, of the Special Committee, having ceased to